GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:323
ANSWERED ON:20.10.2008
DISEASES IN FRUITS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many kinds of fruits get destroyed because of spread of diseases and consequently the Government has to suffer loss to the tune of several crore of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether research has been conducted to check spread of the said diseases;

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTt LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Yes,Sir.The citrus fruits get destroyed due to pathogens like fungi and bacteria. Grapes are vulnerable to post harvest diseases mainly due to bunch and berry rots.Among the prominent cases of crop damage, heavy loss of apple crop was reported during 2006-07 due to severe infestation of codling moth on apple and apricot in Laddakh Division of Jammu & Kashmir.Moderate to severe incidence of Bacterial Leaf Blight (Oily Spot) has been reported in pomegranate in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in recent years. The incidence of Black Spot (Sigatoka) disease on banana crop was reported in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra State.

(c) & (d): Government of India has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the cardinal principle of plant protection. IPM packages of practices for pest/disease management in 77 major crops have been developed. Research has also been conducted by the institutions of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and recommendations made and control measures suggested to check spread of diseases in fruits.

(e): Does not arise.